



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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**MILWAUKEE AND REGIONAL PARTNERS AWARDED
\$20 MILLION ENERGY RETROFIT GRANT**
Funds to protect resources while promoting economic growth

MILWAUKEE- Three Wisconsin cities, Milwaukee, Madison and Racine, have won \$20-million in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Energy's "Retrofit Ramp-up" program. This highly competitive grant opportunity will leverage an additional \$100 million of private investment in the State for energy efficiency improvements.

Milwaukee will use its share of the award to launch the Milwaukee Energy Efficiency (ME2) program. ME2 will provide affordable loans to homeowners to make their homes more efficient. Funds will also be used to provide capital to commercial businesses to make their operations more efficient.

"ME2 is a trifecta winner – creating long-lasting family-supporting green jobs; improving the energy efficiency of our housing stock; and reducing pollution in the community," said Mayor Barrett. "We are using these stimulus funds wisely to attract private sector investment and to create jobs."

Mayor Tom Barrett directed the City's Office of Environmental Sustainability to develop the ME2 program in 2008. In 2009, the City partnered with the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation to launch an ME2 pilot program. That pilot program, the partnership approach with the three cities, and new state and local laws authorizing cities to issue energy efficiency loans, contributed to the successful grant application. The Retrofit Ramp-up grant will allow the City to expand ME2 city-wide.

As part of the ME2 program, the City will implement a Community Workforce Agreement to ensure that city residents will benefit from the new job opportunities.

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Milwaukee Awarded Energy Grant
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The City is also leveraging other workforce development grants and its partnership with the Emerald Cities Collaborative to create new career pathways in the emerging green economy. The Emerald Cities Collaborative brings together community development organizations, labor groups and businesses to support cities' efforts to create green jobs.

The grant is being administered by the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation.

The Retrofit Ramp-up Grant was highly competitive. The City was a part of only 25 successful grant applications. Communities around the country submitted \$2.8 billion in grant requests for a total of \$450 million in funds.